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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

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EXTEND ITS BENEFITS.

London, Aug. 9.—The success of the British Trades Boards Act has been so substantial and the cause for the extension of the act so irresistible that the Board of Trade has consented to extend it to five more specified trades. This, in view of the separate treatment of Ireland, means that eight additional boards will be created. In doing this the Board of Trade rightly considered the purpose and scope of the bodies, and it is gratifying to know that the act is to be extended generally. The new trades to be included are: Sugar confectionery, preserving and pickling; shirt-making industry; hollow-ware (box canisters, etc.); linen and cotton embroidery; calais lace; and embroidering (laundry industry). The following figures will give some idea of the number of workers for whom the act is intended. Confectionery, etc., 70,000; shirt-making, 40,000; hollow-ware, 10,000; linen and cotton embroidery, 4,000; laundrying and calendaring, 110,000; ironing only, 18,000; total, 253,000. Should the whole of this industry be included, the Trade Boards will have in their keeping the interests of nearly one-fourth of all the women workers in factories and workshops. It should be stated that employers everywhere (except in the laundry industry) do not oppose, but cordially accepting the act. It is very difficult to organize the workers for whom the act is intended, but though difficult, it is a duty which the National Federation of Women Workers will gladly undertake, in conjunction with the Anti-sweating League. It will be observed that the extension of the act applies almost entirely to girls and women.

ENJOIN FLINT GLASSWORKERS.

Wheeling, W. Va., Aug. 9—Another sweeping injunction has just been issued by Alsten G. Dayton, judge of the United States Court in the Northern District of West Virginia, against the American Flint Glassworkers' Union and its representatives in behalf of the Eagle Glass Company of Wellsburg. Organizer Joseph. Gilhooly of the Flints has been enjoined from organizing the employes of the Eagle Glass Company for some time past, and was meeting with fair success when a demonstration was made to thwart his efforts. The company failing in its efforts applied to Judge Dayton for a restraining order and it was promptly issued. A United States Marshal was sent from Parkersburg to serve the writ. It prohibits free speech and places any man in contempt who asks any employe of the Eagle plant to join the union or who says that by so doing he would violate a contract he is alleged to have with the company. The so-called contract is said to have been secured from the employes by coercive methods after it was discovered that Organizer Gilhooly had made considerable progress among the men. It is expected the case will be carried to the United States Supreme Court by the American Flints.

INCREASING MEMBERSHIP.

Elvins, Mo., Aug. 9.—The local unions of the Western Federation of Miners are organizing their forces with remarkable rapidity. The miners are determined that they are entitled to increased wages and better working conditions, but the lead and zinc mine operators have refused to give any concessions, consequently the unions are preparing to insist upon their demands. The membership in all the local unions has been increased by leaps and bounds as the result of organizing work, and should it become necessary to call a strike practically every man working in the metal mines in the Flat River country will respond.

SCORED A VICTORY.

Rosario, Argentine, Aug. 8.—The municipal workers in this city have scored a great victory over the town administration. They had to put forward a number of demands for the regulation of the working time and conditions of labor, but the high-handed Town Council combined over by the employers, promptly refused the demands. Upon this the workers entered into a strike which met with the sympathy and support of the whole of the workers. At the end of the week of the authorities had to "sing small." As might well be expected, the news of the victory was received with delight by the working population throughout the Argentine.

LAUNDRY COMBINE INDICTED.

Denver, Aug. 9.—Thirty-four members of the Laundryowners' Association in Denver have been indicted by the grand jury for forming an illegal combination and will be tried at the September term of the District Court. The charge is that since the consolidation of the laundry prices have been boosted from 15 per cent to 150 per cent. A similar local combination formed here and was dissolved by order of the court. Notwithstanding the great increase in the cost of foreign labor and any disposition shown to advance wages, and many girls were being compelled to work for 14 and 16 per week.

ADJUST HODCARRIERS' DISPUTE.

Wheeling, Aug. 8.—The dispute which has been pending here for several weeks between the hod carriers and the contractors was finally adjusted a few days since, and all men have returned to work. The new agreement the hod carriers will receive $2.80 per day and building laborers $2.50. The hod laborers are granted an increase of 20 cents per day and the hod carriers 30 cents. This is a compromise between the former one being repudiated by the contractors.

SHOW ENORMOUS INCREASE.

New York, Aug. 9.—Labor organizations in this state have made a splendid showing during the past year. The number of local organizations on the list of March 31, was 2,530 and the membership 836,438. As compared with September 30, 1912, this is a net increase of 46 local organizations and 112,146 members, a larger semi-annual increase in membership than has occurred in the past year. The membership increase occurred chiefly in New York City, being 63 per cent.

BARTENDERS ORGANIZE.

Sioux City, Iowa, Aug. 8.—Through the efforts of the Trades and Labor Assembly, together with Organizer Hopby, a local union of organized bartenders has been formed. The charter list contains a good majority of all the bartenders in the city.

REFUSED JURISDICTION.

Washington, Aug. 9.—The Executive Council refused the application of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union for jurisdiction over newspaper drivers in the construction of labor retaining the right to charter organizations of this character.

A GOOD LESSON.

Washington, Aug. 9.—In a current issue of the Coke and Coal Operator and Fuel Magazine there appears an interesting item under the caption "Keeping Employees." It is as follows: "One phase of the efficiency of a conservative policy that now is getting serious attention is that of conserving the skill and experience of employes. A remarkable example of this form of efficiency is to be seen in the leather factories at Cornelius Heyl, Worms, Germany. Of 4,822 workers and officials in the Heyl factory, 1,880 have been employed for more than 25 years, 892 for 20 years and more, 592 in employ twenty-five years or more, 122 for forty years or more, and twenty-one for fifty years or more. More than one-third of the employes have been with the firm more than ten years, and more than one-sixth for a quarter of a century or more. An American expert brought face to face with these figures for the first time would be apt to exclaim that if he were running the Heyl establishments, he would clean out the dead wood and get in a lot of bright young men. Can it be done? Maybe. It is a common American policy to discharge men in the middle years of life and to employ young men who are hustlers; but there is a great economic waste in this American method."

STREET CARMEN ORGANIZE.

Providence, R. I., Aug. 9.—Employes of the Street Railway Company in this city have formed an organization. This was brought to a climax last night when a meeting was held in all directions from this point having gradually grown to its present size with the consequent increase in wages and bettering of conditions that follow organization. The new local is composed of the organization here the officials of the road and representatives of the men have come to an agreement which will extend over the next two years, by the terms of which the employes will be granted conditions similar to the lines that employ union men. The agreement will go into effect July 1 and expires June 1, 1915. The wage scale is as follows: First six months, 23 cents; second six months, 24 1-2 cents; second year, 26 cents; third year, 27 cents; thereafter, 28 1-2 cents. In this agreement the present wages for linemen, ground men, track men, trolley boys, freight handlers, and car cleaners is continued. It is estimated that the employes of the new union will amount to approximately $185,000 per year.

FOR MINE SAFETY.

Washington, Aug. 9.—The present need of uniformity in mine accident prevention and rescue work has been brought to the attention of the mine operators, mining engineers, and mine surgeons throughout the country, and efforts will be made to secure a meeting to be held in Pittsburgh September 22, 23, and 24 to make more uniform the work. During the 1911 8,600 men were killed in the mines and quarries of the United States and 62,361 were injured. Since the organization of the "Safety First" movement of five years ago large numbers of the mines have been equipped with rescue cars, and in the life following disaster, and in the development of the hygienic conditions of the profession of methods. The purpose of this particular meeting is to discuss the various methods and devices upon the list. The enactment in the various States of workmen's compensation acts, together with the rapid spread of knowledge of spelling employers to care for injured workmen, is acting as a stimulant on mine owners as well as other employers, to take such measures as will make for the safety of their employees.

PAINTERS WIN CONCESSIONS.

Vienna, Austria, Aug. 8.—The Western Federation of Miners will for the first time send a representative to the coming International Miners' Congress in Karlsbad. In this city a strike of 553 painters was answered by the lockout of the members of the Master Painters' Association, which secured all round increases in wages and numerous other improvements. The Metal Workers' Federation, in co-operation with the Co-operative Society, has established a banking federation for the Austrian workers societies. Same had deposits to the extent of 40,000 pounds to start with, and already numerous trade unions and co-operative societies are among its clients.

BUILDING TRADES VICTORIOUS.

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 9.—A strike and lockout which has been in progress here for the last seven months between the Building Trades Council, the Bricklayers' Union and the Building Contractors' Association, has been settled. The Building Trades Council comes out of the struggle in splendid shape; in fact, the settlement is more effective than ever before in the history of the movement. The contest occurred over the Bricklayers' demands for an eight-hour day, which was finally conceded to other organizations.

STEEL EARNINGS INCREASE.

New York, Aug. 9.—The quarterly statement of the United States Steel Corporation for the three months ending June 30, 1913, shows a total net earning of $15,319,611, and the net income of $11,620,611, which is in excess of the most favorable estimates. The quarter shows a gain in net income over the preceding period of $8,156,655. Compared with the corresponding quarter of 1912 the net income was increased by $13,491,317. The usual quarterly dividends of 1 1-4 per cent on the preferred and 1 per cent on the common shares were declared.

TO INSTALL PRINTING PLANT.

Atlantic City, N. J., Aug. 8.—At the convention of the Delaware Valley District of Operative Potters the Finance Committee recommended that an appropriation of $10,000 be set aside for the defense fund for the purpose of installing a printing plant. The convention unanimously made the recommendation to the committee and the matter will be submitted to the general membership for approval or disapproval.

HEALTHY GROWTH FOR 1912.

Berlin, Germany, Aug. 9.—The "Correspondenzblatt," the organ of the General Commission of German Trade Unions, publishes a temporary review of the development of the affiliated organizations for the past year. According to this report the membership of the unions rose from 2,930,018 to 3,220,736. The number of local organizations, fell from 31 to 48 as a result of amalgamations.

KEYMEN VOTE STRIKE.

St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 9.—Returns on the strike vote being taken by the Telephone Operators on the Northern Pacific Railway indicate that there is an almost unanimous sentiment in favor of a strike. Officials declare that between 30 per cent and 40 per cent are in favor of a strike to enforce increased wages and improved conditions.

CARPENTERS STILL GROWING.

Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 8.—The outside men in Toronto, Can., have been on strike for several weeks in support of an increase in wages, the present wage of 5 cents per hour. Practically all the men are back at work and receiving the increase, which makes a total increase of 10 cents per hour. The inside men, too, received an increase in wages of 5 cents per hour after a strike lasting two months. A lockout of the building trades in Kansas City was terminated during the past week, a satisfactory agreement having been reached. Our organization in Lynn, Mass., to the number of 300, have been on strike since May 15, in support of a movement for an increase in wages. The strike was settled last week by compromise and the men returned to work. The following unions were organized during the month of July: Portland, Ore.; Greenwood, S. C.; Greenville, S. C.; Spartanburg, S. C.; Omaha, Neb.; Long Beach, Cal.; Tacoma, Wash.; Detroit, Mich. (millwrights); Wheeler City, Ind.; Kansas City, Kans.; Lynbrook, N. Y.; Charlotte, N. C.; South Ft. George, B. C.; Can.; Elberon, Ill. One organizer, Birmingham, Ala.; Havre, Mont.; Riverhead, N. Y.

STORY OF CHILD LABOR.

Washington, Aug. 9.—The children of 5,000 families in all states of the Union are this week reading about the children who work in cotton mills, tenements, coal mines, canneries and glass factories. The story of child labor had never been told in fifteen words until the National Child Labor Committee prepared this latest number of the Child Labor Bulletin in which "our new friend" Dr. Cadman, the little boy's big medicine bottle, and other inanimate friends of well-cared for children tell them the story of child labor. The only story for grown-ups in this number of the Bulletin is an account of conditions in the cotton mills. Statistics last April by agents of the National Child Labor Committee in Georgia, children of widows and of aged dependent fathers are allowed to go to work at ten years of age, and are so poorly enforced that in many mills children of ten were found at work whose "widowed" mother had married again, or whose "aged, dependent father" was under fifty and also at work. Georgia is the only state in the Union where twelve may legally work in factories and the legislature is now considering a bill to do away with this condition and raise the age limit to fourteen years in 1915.

TEXTILE TRADES LOCKED OUT.

Moscow, Russia, Aug. 9.—A great strike wave is now passing through this district. The employers in the textile trades have answered with a lock-out; the number of the mills now closed is 200. Singer Sewing Machine workers are on strike near this city, and the metal workers in St. Petersburg struck work in certain sections as a protest against the sentences passed by the Court Martial upon fifty naval seamen for having a revolutionary organization. The strike is now well on in St. Petersburg have during the past six months, registered 2,400 new members. There is at present the largest membership of the Petersburg, in which the first time, is taking part. They have exhibited statistics, tables, &c.

THIS REFUTES CALAMITY HOWL.

Washington, Aug. 9.—The United States is enjoying a period of great prosperity to figures compiled by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce of the Department of Commerce, on industrial activities, commercial movements, domestic arteries, and finances, as shown by industrial reports. The figures show reports of manufacturers' products, reports of manufacturers, and agricultural products, movements of manufacturers' materials within the United States, activities of transporting agencies, and the supply and distribution of currency of the several states. They show practically all of these the figures of the fiscal year 1913 exceed those of the former high record year, 1912.

SAFEGUARDING LIFE.

Washington, Aug. 9.—It is reported that the Illinois Steel Company in its five plants has reduced accidents during the last ten years by 66 2-3 per cent. These figures are significant for the whole mining industry in an extra hazardous industry, including a large hazard which has not heretofore been considered by the industrial guards. It is further asserted that one-third of this reduction has been accomplished by means of a corps of safety guards by means of education, and organization.

FITTERS WIN VICTORY.

St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 8.—The Union Advocate says that the strike of the union Steamfitters, which has been on since July 1, has been settled with the union for the strikers. At a special meeting of the union it was reported that practically all the employers in the city had accepted the new wage scale and signed agreements and that practically every man belonging to the union was at work and the strike was therefore declared ended.

TEAMSTERS WIN FIGHT.

San Jose, Cal., Aug. 9.—An agreement has been reached between the commission merchants of this city and the Teamsters' Union whereby in future commission houses will employ none but union drivers on their wagons. This is a victory for the union in the fight vigorously contested battle, but with the results achieved it is a good boost for organized labor in this city.

CALL SPECIAL SESSION.

Grand Forks, N. Dak., Aug. 8.—A special session of the North Dakota Legislature will be called in the near future, probably next year to provide the machinery to carry out the constitutional amendment providing United States Senators to be elected by a direct vote of the people. The State is without this machinery and it will be impossible to be elected in 1914 it is necessary that provision be made.

SELECT PERKINS.

Washington, Aug. 9.—At the recent meeting of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, President George W. Perkins, of the Cigarmakers' International Union, was selected as delegate to represent the American Federation of Labor at the meeting of the International Secretariat at Zurich, Switzerland, in September, this year.

CLOAK MAKERS STRIKE.

Baltimore, Aug. 8.—About 800 Cloakmakers have struck for shorter hours and an increase in wages. The strikers demand a forty-hour week and 25 per cent increase. Seventy manufacturers are affected.

AGAINST THE WORKMAN.

Washington, Aug. 8.—In the case of Staerich vs. Pearson Mining Company, decided by the Supreme Court of Minnesota, it appeared that the plaintiff and a fellow servant were engaged in "shake blasting" in the breast of a mine by the use of dynamite and caps and fuses. The practice was for each to light a fuse at the same time and then run to a place of safety until both blasts exploded. On one occasion each of the workmen had tried to fire his fuse, but only one explosion was heard. They remained away for five minutes, and when they knew an explosion should have taken place. It appeared that the plaintiff was a miner of some months' experience, and there was no evidence that he did not know how long he should stay away from the shot, though there was some evidence to the effect that both should have remained away fifteen or twenty minutes. The court said that the evidence did not show the existence of any duty to instruct him in regard to the time, and that it having been shown that the fuse was of the length usually furnished for the use of miners, it was plain from the fact that it was not longer furnished no ground of liability on the part of the defendant.

FOR THE WORKMEN.

Washington, Aug. 9.—In the case of Hanson vs. Red Wing Sewer Pipe Company, decided by the Supreme Court of Minnesota, it appeared that the place where the plaintiff, an employe of the defendant company, was required to work was inherently dangerous, and that the defendant had established a custom in accordance with which the men engaged to work at the bottom of a bank in a clay pit were required to work under one of the bank whenever the latter pried loose and were about to drop chunks of frozen clay; that the plaintiff was not given any room for protection, and that he was injured in consequence of such clay falling upon him at a time when the foreman was given by an employe on the top of the bank. The court held that the duty to give warning became a part of the absolute obligation of the employer, for a breach of which he was responsible, though the failure to give the warning in the particular instance forming the subject of the action was by a fellow servant of a person engaged in the common employment.

TO "MAKE PRINTERS."

Sioux City, Ia., Aug. 8.—The Board of Education of this city has adopted a new course of study at the high school. It has employed an instructor in printing at a salary of $1,800 a year to teach the young idea to print, while it is planning to put more of the pupils' time in its four-year course at high school. This industrial opera buffet will be carried on in addition to the present eight hours per day to this particular course. The new departure is opposed by labor and expecting to turn out competent printers in four years, the course is in accordance with the "Learn-a-Trade-Quick Scheme," but will result in failure.

SEEK UNIFORM LAWS.

New York, Aug. 9.—The commission on uniform state laws, which has been holding conferences regularly for twenty-four years, and which has secured results are obvious from its name, will meet in Montreal, Canada, during the week beginning August 25. The meeting will be the annual meeting of the American Bar Association. Representatives from all the states in the Union, Alaska, Porto Rico, and the Philippines have been urged to be present. Among the subjects for discussion will be that of a uniform workmen's compensation act. The nearest approach to uniformity has been in the matter of negotiable instruments, which is now a law in forty-two States and Alaska.

GERMAN BOOK BINDERS.

Berlin, Germany, Aug. 9.—The German Book Binders' Union reports a net membership by 2,673 during the past year, which now has 49,436. Included in this number are book binders, account book makers, rulers, portfolio makers, leather workers, box makers, cigarette case, &c., makers, album makers, cardboard box makers, and stationery workers, &c. The federation has 1,027 male and 16,711 female members. In the last year a reduction in the total working time to the extent of 400,000 hours and increases in wages of 380,000 marks were obtained. The number of trade tariff agreements (wage scales), covering 33,109 members in 2,169 workshops now exist.

AMALGAMATION CONSUMMATED.

Pittsburgh, Aug. 8.—Arrangements have been completed whereby the Tin Plate Workers' International Protective Association and the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers are merged into one organization. Final negotiations were made by the Tin Plate Amalgamated headquarters in this city. By the terms of the agreement the Tin Plate Workers become members by the Amalgamated Association with no extra cost to the individuals except the regular initiation fee. Edward W. Hunt will act as organizer for that branch of the industry.

PRINTERS GET RAISE.

Jackson, Aug. 9.—A committee representing the Typographical Union has secured an agreement with all newspaper and job offices. The printers in the city are given a boost of $1 a week for the first year with another dollar added the second year. Several months ago the local paper plans received a $2 a week raise with all overtime at the rate of price and one-half.

WAGES ARE RAISED.

Holyoke, Mass., Aug. 9.—Employes of the Interstate Electric Road at Attleboro have received notice of a 10% increase. After Aug. 15 they will receive 31 cents an hour for the first six months, instead of 28 cents, as at present. All the grades is in the same proportion.

CHICAGO PRINTERS RAISE WAGES

Chicago, Aug. 9.—The Typographical Union is now working under a two years' agreement which calls for a $24 a week minimum. This is an increase of $2.50 a week over the old wage scale. Every shop has been paying the old scale signed the new one.

THE GOOD WORK IS UNIVERSAL.

Monte Video, Uruguay, Aug. 2.—It is reported from Monte Video that the Chamber of Deputies has accepted a law providing the legal eight-hour day for all workers engaged by State or local authorities, as well as for all workers paid out of the public purse.

PLUMBERS ON STRIKE.

Chattanooga, Aug. 9.—The local Plumbers' Union is on strike. Its demand for an increase in wages and better working conditions having been refused. The demand of the Plumbers' Union is said to be for the purpose of establishing a fair living wage scale and decent hours.

FOR ARMOR PLATE PLANT.

Washington, Aug. 8.—Indications are pointing toward a big steel plant to be owned by the United States Government. Secretary Daniels is planning and producing a large part of the heavy and expensive armor used in the protection of battleships. It strongly appears that party lines will be broken in a demand for the total demolition of what is known as the armor trust, as two Republican representatives, one Democratic Senator and the Democratic Secretary of the Navy are all working toward the same end. Already a bill has been introduced appropriating $4,000,000 to establish a plant, but it is not considered that the amount appropriated is anywhere near adequate to commence operations. It is asserted by the Secretary of the Navy that evidence is not lacking that the present price of steel armor is based more upon what the companies think they can get than what it costs. It has been shown that the government can produce armor for very much less than is now paid the armor trust. In fact, since the government has been dividing its orders between three mills no one of the three armor plate it has totally eliminated competition and the Secretary's statement is that the three mills now for armor companies is based upon facts.

THE STEAM SHOVELMEN

Washington, Aug. 9.—The Executive Council adopted a resolution to the effect "that it is the sense of the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. that an international Steam Shovelmen and Dredgmen should be formed and chartered by the American Federation of Labor; that such organization should be composed of the members of the International Brotherhood of Steam Shovelmen and Dredgmen and Associated Union of Steam Shovelmen. That such amalgamated organization should have jurisdiction over Steam Shovelmen employed in construction and excavation work, in the employ of railroads and in the coal and metalliferous mining industries, jurisdiction over the men in these fields named industries invested in the United Mine Workers of America and the Western Federation of Miners, provided President Gompers and Secretary Morrison were instructed to arrange a conference of the representatives of the various organizations. The present arrangement is to have 300 delegates present at the Kaiserhof Hotel, Chicago. The result of this conference will be reported to the next Executive Council meeting.

FATALITIES INCREASE.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 9.—According to reports received from State mine inspectors and others, 1,913 persons lost their lives in the mines. There were 195 men killed in one or more explosions of gas or coal dust, and 1,056 were killed in falls of roof or coal during the same month in 1912. The largest disaster occurred on May 19 at the Imperial Colliery, near Jacobs, Pa. It was caused by gas explosion, fifteen men losing their lives. In comparison with 1912, it must be borne in mind that the report for 1913 has not been received from Georgia, New Mexico, and Oregon, which states for 1912 showed a loss of five lives. Fatalities in coal mines increased 1.03 per cent during 1912, were 1,056; while for the same period for 1913, the loss of life was 1,03.

PERRY RESIGNS.

Indianapolis, Aug. 8.—Edwin Perry, National Secretary-Treasurer of the United Mine Workers, has resigned. Edwin Perry first entered the service of the United Mine Workers of America in 1890 as Organizer for eighteen years and has served as President of Iowa State Miners' Organization, afterward as Financial Secretary and subsequently became elected Secretary-Treasurer of the international organization. Mr. Perry has been succeeded by William Green, of Indiana. The reason for the resignation of Mr. Perry is that of failing health caused by the arduous duties of the position which he held.

PLUMBERS GET AGREEMENT.

Springfield, Ohio, Aug. 9.—The Plumbers have just secured a new agreement with many advances. Not only have the raises the wage rate from 46 cents to 50 cents per hour. Beginning with July, 1914, there will be a further increase to 54½ cents per hour. Another provision that calls for the establishment of the forty-four-hour week will be inaugurated the first of July, 1914. While there are eleven unions in Springfield that have been successful in securing the eight-hour day, the plumbers are the first to establish the forty-four-hour week.

APPOINTS UNION MAN.

Chicago, Aug. 9.—Oscar F. Nelson, President of the International Federation of Postoffice Clerks as well as Vice-President of the Chicago Federation of Labor, has been appointed State Factory Inspector by Governor Dunne. Mr. Nelson assumed the office on August 1. As President of the National Federation of Postoffice Clerks he succeeded in getting many adjustments favorable to the employes and secured legislation that has been of material benefit to the men who work in the postoffices throughout the country.

PRINTERS' QUARTERLY SESSION.

Lancaster, Pa., Aug. 9.—The regular quarterly convention of the Eastern Pennsylvania District Typographical Union was held in this city on August 3. This district comprises Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Harrisburg, Lancaster, Philadelphia, Pottsville, Pottstown, Reading, Scranton, Williamsport, Wilkesbarre, and York. Victor E. Berger, editor in chief instructor, and W. B. Prescott, of the I. T. U. course of instruction in printing, were present and gave a demonstration of how typography is taught to students by correspondence.

RAILROAD MEN MAKE DEMANDS

Hagerstown, Md., Aug. 9.—The trainmen, firemen, engineers, and blacksmiths in the employ of the Western Maryland Railroad Company, who have been organized by the Brotherhoods of the road in regard to a change in the wage schedule, have been unable to secure an advance. As a result it is apprehended that a contest will take place between the entire West-ern Maryland system.

MORE POSTAL SAVINGS BANKS.

Washington, Aug. 9.—The Postmaster General has announced that after September 1 the following cities and towns will be postal savings depositories. This adds 124 offices to the list.

SECURE AN INCREASE.

Cincinnati, Aug. 8.—The motormen and conductors of Covington and Newport, Ky., have secured recognition of their union and an increase of one and two cents per hour. These improvements were brought about by the recent street car men's strike in Cincinnati.

GERMAN UNIONS INCREASE.

Berlin, Germany, Aug. 9.—The "Korrespondent," the organ of the German Printers' Federation, has a circulation of 70,000 copies and is the largest trade union organ which is not supplied free to its members. This paper, which recently celebrated its fifteenth year, has published three times weekly. It is the organ of the National Centre of the German Trade Unions, and publishes exhaustive statistics covering the Local Organizations of the Independent Trade unions. Such councils amounted in 764 places in the year 1912, and had a membership of 4,236,218, being more than last year. These organizations are engaged in the furthering of trade union agitation, the carrying out of all protective measures for workers, the bringing about of a satisfactory representation of the interests of the workmen in the case of election of members to the Socialist party, and co-operative action on the part of the unions in the cases of emergency. The councils were responsible for 8,288 meetings and 118 agricultural inquiries, which included the taking of the census of the unemployed in 1911. Trade union exchanges are to be found in 82 places. Seventy-seven councils have their own trade union temples, 46 have secretaries, 39 trade union meeting rooms, while 349 private meeting houses are under the control of the trade unions. Forty hundred and eighty-one have general libraries, 38 have reading rooms; 429, building societies; 1,000 have co-operation; 106, special workers' secretaries. In addition to these there are 212 bureaus for information and legal advice.

TRADE UNION DIVIDENDS.

Washington, Aug. 9.—The reports of the officers of the International Typographical Union, at the biennial convention, which occurs at Nashville, Tenn., August 11-16, has been sent to the membership. The progress made in the organization so far as average earnings are concerned shows a steady and strong trend upward, with an increase in membership in 1909 of 44,921. The average earnings per member per week for that year were $397. In 1910 the paying membership increased to 47,346, with average earnings per member per week of $397. In 1911 the paying membership reached 52,857, with average earnings per member per year of $892. The year 1912 showed a still further increase in paying membership, it reaching a total of 56,654. Average earnings also in 1912 reached the sum of $1,015 each of 61,053 per member. The total increase in wages from June 1, 1908, to May 31, 1912, was $16,659,748. These figures are accurate, as the International Typographical Union collects the 40 per pension upon a percentage of earnings basis, which given to the international offices accurate data.

CONVENTION CALL ISSUED.

Ottawa, Ontario, Aug. 9.—The official call has been issued by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada for the twenty-sixth annual session, which will convene in Montreal, Province of Quebec, on Monday morning, September 15, 1913. The principal matters to be taken up are the repeal of the present Alien Labor Law and the enforcement of the monetary clause of the immigration act during the year round; the consideration of the proposed eight-hour bill; amendments to the industrial disputes and investigation act; semi-monthly payment of wages on the Dominion railways; the extension of the old age pensions and pensions for widows and children in Canada, now pending before the parliament committee of the Dominion parliament.

GIRL WORKERS IN PERIL.

Boston, Aug. 9.—"Girls work in perilous trades for the enjoyment of others, and the dreadful catastrophe in Binghamton may be duplicated in Massachusetts at any time," declared the conditions are remedied," was a declaration made by a prominent member of the Consumers' League. The League also sounded a warning note. He asserted that the Binghamton fire could not have happened in Europe, but that in this country, especially Boston, shows little regard for human life in the handling of fire risks. The Mayor claims that in no other place in the country is such building construction permitted as in Boston.

A SHERIFF'S DUTIES.

Washington, Aug. 9.—The Supreme Court of Illinois has held, in the case of Shields vs. Latrobe-Carondelet Brick and Coke Company, that where a sheriff was employed by a company to furnish deputies and guard its property during a strike, and the sheriff's pay roll in addition to his regular salary and to secure a profit to himself, and not mere reimbursement for his expenses, such contract was void as against public policy.

ORGANIZE PHONE OPERATORS.

Shreveport, La., Aug. 8.—The first local organization of Northern Louisiana to be made to exclusively handle women was recently organized in this city by President J. J. Greer, of the State Federation of Labor, assisted by the Central Trades and Labor Council. The union is affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

MACHINISTS STRIKE.

Birmingham, Aug. 9.—The Machinists in this city began a strike to secure a shorter work day and better wages in the contract shops. Several conferences have been held, and conceded to the demands of the Machinists and are now paying advanced wage scales, but four of the large shops have so far refused, and against them a strike is directed.

COLLEGE MEN WASH DISHES.

San Francisco, Aug. 8.—It is stated upon good authority that out of the 90 members of the hotel and restaurant waiters' union in this city 30 per cent are college graduates. These statistics were compiled by two members of the union, who, in addition to their work, is a former instructor in mathematics in an Eastern college. The scale of the union is $18 per week.

CHINESE BARRED IN PANAMA.

Panama, Aug. 9.—The President of the republic has signed a decree prohibiting in the future the naturalization of Chinese in Panama. The census taken in 1911 showed that there were 4,000 Chinese, most of whom were native born or naturalized. About fifty have become naturalized within the last two years.

ORGANIZE ENGINEERS.

Decatur, Ill., Aug. 8.—The Stationary Engineers have formed a local union, and will secure from a large membership very bright prospects.

DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF A. F. OF L.

The Executive Council, at the meeting held at Atlantic City, July 21 to 29, inclusive, had a greater number of questions to pass upon than at any other previous Executive Council meeting. The meeting lasted eight days, six of which were consumed in hearings and reaching decisions upon the various propositions that had been referred to the Council by the Rochester Convention and by affiliated organizations. The remaining two days were taken up in disposing of questions upon which there were no representatives to appear before the Council and those that were not of a controversial character. The most important decisions rendered were:

San Francisco Controversy.

After a joint conference of the Executive Council of the A. F. of L., and the Executive Council of the Building Trades Department of the A. F. of L., and after hearing E. E. Ellison, representing the San Francisco Labor Council and F. H. McCarthy, representing the Building Trades Council of California, the following was adopted:

Resolved, That the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. and the Executive Council of the Building Trades Department of the A. F. of L. in joint session indorse the action of the Secretary and the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. in refusing to approve the strikes of the Gas Workers' Unions against the Pacific Gas and Electric Company and to grant strike benefits on account of such strike, or to sanction a strike by the Gas Workers' Union, No. 9640, of San Francisco, against the said Company, in violation of their agreement and of the A. F. of L. laws.

Resolved, That previous action of the Executive Council be reaffirmed and that the action of President Gompers and Secretary Morrison in the premises be approved, and that they be directed to the name of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor to notify the San Francisco Labor Council and the Executive Officers of all National and International Unions interested to withhold any and all support from the Gas and Electrical Workers, who are attempting to control work that properly comes under the jurisdiction of the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers affiliated with this American Federation of Labor, and a copy of this decision be sent to the State Building Trades Council of California, and that Messrs. Morrison and Morrison, all members of the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. at as early a date as possible whether or not this decision has been complied with.

Amalgamation of Steam Shovelmen.

It was decided that it is the sense of the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. that an organization of steam shovelmen and dredgemen should be formed and chartered by the International Brotherhood of Steam Shovelmen and Dredgemen and the Associated Union of Steam Shovelmen;

That such amalgamated organization should have jurisdiction over steam shovelmen employed in construction and excavation work, with the exception of those employed in the coal and other laborious mining industries, jurisdiction over the men in these last named industries being vested in the United Mine Workers of America, and the Western Federation of Miners respectively.

That this information be communicated to the various organizations having an interest in this question; and

That President Gompers and Secretary Morrison be instructed to arrange a conference of the representatives of the various organizations in interest at such time and place as may be determined upon, but not later than September 15th, 1913, for the purpose of arranging the details of amalgamation, and that the result of the conference be reported to the next meeting of the Executive Council.

It was also decided that representative of the executive council attend the conference of the steam shovelmen called for the purpose of amalgamation.

Steam Engineers vs. Brick Makers-Electrical Workers.

On the matter of the jurisdiction disputes between the International Union of Steam Engineers and the United Brick, Tile and Terra Cotta Workers' International Union and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, in regard to men operating electric machines in brick yards, upon which a hearing was given to the representatives of the Steam Engineers' organization at this meeting, it was decided that it be referred for further information, particularly from the Brick, Tile and Terra Cotta Workers, with the instruction denied that there was an understanding between the Steam Engineers, and Terra Cotta Makers and that the question would be left with the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. for decision, and upon which information the Executive Council of the Steam Engineers to the Executive Council, question was considered by the Executive Council and jurisdiction over the work be awarded to the Steam Engineers' International Union of Steam Engineers.

Bookbinders vs. I. T. U.

On the matter of the jurisdiction controversy between the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders and the International Typographical Union in regard to single wrapping, and the request of the Board of Governors of the International Allied Printing Trades Council that the Executive Council state the interpretation of the term "printing offices" as contained in the decision of the Executive Council on this controversy rendered at the June, 1911 meeting, it was decided that action be deferred until the next meeting of the Executive Council and that Secretary Morrison invite the organizations in interest to have representatives present at that meeting.

Machinists vs. Carriage and Wagon Workers.

On the complaint of the Machinists against the Carriage and Wagon Workers it was decided that the officers of the International Union of Carriage, Wagon and Automobile Workers be directed to cease organizing machinists under their jurisdiction, pending a conference looking to an adjustment of the controversy and that the provisions of Resolution No. 37 of the Rochester International of the A. F. of L. providing for a conference between representatives of the International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths and Helpers, the Upholsterers' International Union and the Carriage, Wagon and Automobile Workers' International Union to take up disputed jurisdiction between these organizations, be extended so as to include representatives of the International Association of Machinists.

Drop and Machine Forgers.

On the matter of the protest of the International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths and Helpers against the issuance of a charter to an organization known as Drop and Machine Forgers, Die Sinkers and Trimmer Makers, and the claim of jurisdiction of the International Association of Machinists over the same work, it was decided that action be deferred pending the time when parties in interest be requested to hold a conference in the effort to bring about an adjustment.

Plumbers vs. Gas Workers.

On the matter of the jurisdiction dispute between the Plumbers' Local Union No. 442, and the Gas and Coke Workers' Union, No. 9640, of San Francisco the Executive Council decided that the jurisdiction of this local union known as Drop and Machine Forgers, Die Sinkers and Trimmer Makers, and the claim of jurisdiction of the International Association of Machinists over the same work, it was decided that action be deferred pending the time when parties in interest be requested to hold a conference in the effort to bring about an adjustment.

Plumbers vs. Gas Workers.

On the matter of the jurisdiction dispute between the Plumbers' Local Union No. 442, and the Gas and Coke Workers' Union, No. 9640 of San Francisco the Executive Council decided that the jurisdiction of this local union extends over work performed by public and quasi-public corporations or persons supplying gas and water for municipalities; that all other work, including that to be performed in connection with the Panama Exposition grounds, be under the jurisdiction of the United Association of Plumbers, Gas Fitters, Steam Fitters, and Steam Fitters' Helpers.

Teamsters vs. Brewery Workers.

In the contentions between the teamsters and the brewery workers, referred to the executive council of the A. F. of L. by preceding conventions, the evidence showed that in handling and distributing the products of breweries, the teamsters are generally employed in such work, but that they make many of them also brewery workers; that brewery teamsters be organized into local unions with mixed voluntary membership in the brewery workers' organization.

It was also published we see no justification for the transfer of these men from the Brewery Workers' Union and so decide.

With reference to distilleries and to mineral water establishments where bottled beer, steam drivers where organized hold membership in and properly come under the jurisdiction of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers, and we so decide.

Metal Pattern Makers.

It was decided that the protest of the Pattern Makers' League relative to the jurisdiction claimed by members of the Pattern Makers by the International Association of Machinists be referred to the Building Trades Department for adjustment.

Metal Polishers vs. Carriage and Wagon Workers.

On the protest of the Metal Polishers, Buffers and Platers' Union against the International Union of Carriage, Wagon and Automobile Workers for alleged encroachment upon the jurisdiction of the Metal Polishers it was decided that it be referred to the conference to be composed hence held by the representatives of the International Carriage, Wagon and Automobile Workers, International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, the Upholsterers' International Union, and the International Association of Machinists, which conference is to take up the jurisdiction disputes of these organizations.

Building Trades Department vs. Plasterers. .

It was decided that President Gompers request the withdrawal of the charter of the Operative Plasterers' International Association for the purpose of bringing about the reamalgamation of the Operative Plasterers with the Building Trades' Department, and that the officers of the Operative Plasterers' International Association be notified that if they fail to reaffiliate with the Building Trades Department prior to September 1, 1913, that the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. will recommend to the next convention of the American Federation of Labor that the charter of the Operative Plasterers' International Association be revoked.

Hod Carriers vs. Cement Workers.

On the request of the Building Trades' Department, it was decided that a conference be held between two representatives of the American Brotherhood of Cement Workers and two representatives of the International Hod Carriers, Building and Common Laborers' Union, in conjunction with one representative of the American Federation of Labor and one representative of the Building Trades' Department, for the purpose of adjusting the controversy over jurisdiction between the above-named organizations.

It was further decided that Vice President Duncan be the representative of the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. as called for by the foregoing action.

Firemen vs. Steam Engineers.

On the matter of the protest of the International Brotherhood of Stationary Firemen against the issuance by the A. F. of L. of charters to the International Union of Steam and Operating Engineers" and the jurisdiction covering the jurisdiction claims of the Steam Engineers which infringe on the jurisdiction of Stationary Firemen, in the book of instructions to organizers, published by the American Federation of Labor, and the decision of the Executive Council that the change of title from "International Union of Steam Engineers" to International Union of Steam and Operating Engineers" carried with it no extension of jurisdiction, it was decided that the officers of the International Union of Steam and Operating Engineers be requested to secure a copy of that the change of its title was to be so understood; further, that firemen, oilers, and helpers do not come under the jurisdiction of the International Union of Steam and Operating Engineers, and that the duties of these men cannot be changed by designating them as apprentices; and that the officers of the International Brotherhood of Stationary Firemen be further advised that the statement published in the book of instructions to organizers is not a statement of the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. or the jurisdiction of the Steam Engineers, but is the statement furnished by the officers of the Steam Engineers.

Tunnel and Subway Contractors-Rockmen.

On the application of the Tunnel and Subway Constructors' International Union for jurisdiction over men who handle drills in their industry, the jurisdiction of this organization against the Hod Carriers, Building, and Common Laborers' International Union was pursued and representatives of these organizations having failed to meet in conference as directed by the Rochester convention with the action of the Executive Council at the January, 1913, meeting, it was decided that the matter be referred to President Gompers for the purpose of arrangements for a conference of the representatives of the three organizations relative to securing an adjustment and in making arrangements for such a conference that representatives of the International Association of Machinists be invited to attend. In accordance with the action of the Executive Council at the January, 1913, meeting, a conference was held between representatives of the International Association of Machinists against the Carriage and Wagon Workers for alleged infringement of jurisdiction.

Machinists vs. Carpenters.

On the matter of the jurisdiction dispute between the International Association of Machinists and the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners relative to the work of erecting machinery, it was decided that it be referred to the Building Trades Department.

Brewery Workers-Flour and Cereal Mill Employes.

On the application of the International Union of United Brewery Workmen for jurisdiction over Flour and Cereal Mill Employes it was decided that application be denied.

Boilermakers vs. Bridge and Structural Iron Workers.

In the matter of the dispute between the Brotherhood of Boilermakers and Iron Shipbuilders and the International Bridge and Structural Workers' Association, it is the decision of the Executive Council that the agreement reached by the organizations in interest November 1910, is still in effect, and that in accordance with that agreement any dispute which arises or may arise which cannot be determined by the president of the two International Unions, is referred to them to be "submitted to arbitration."

Glass Workers vs. Painters.

It was decided that the Executive Council reaffirm its previous decision, which gives to the Amalgamated Glass Workers' Union jurisdiction over the setting of art glass, without further modifying the decision rendered at the September, 1903, meeting, which gave jurisdiction to the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators, and Paperhangers over putty glazing, and the decision be also communicated to the officers of the Building Trades Department for their information in question as follows:

Resolved, That President Gompers communicate with the officers of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators, and Paperhangers of America, to the effect that the decision rendered by the Executive Council at the meeting held September, 1903, concerning that putty glazing comes under the jurisdiction of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators, and Paperhangers of America, does not include the setting of art glass, jurisdiction over which belongs to the Amalgamated Glass Workers' International Association.

Flint Glass Workers vs. Machinists.

In connection with the protest of the International Association of Machinists against the American Flint Glass Workers' Union having jurisdiction over men who operate machines for molding glassware and the agreement made by these organizations April 11, 1913, "that conditions remain unchanged, pending the next meeting of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, when the entire question of jurisdiction over the men making molds for molding glassware shall be disposed of at the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, in accordance therewith, it was decided that the American Flint Glass Workers' Union, having complied with the conditions imposed upon it by several conventions of the American Federation of Labor, and in addition even to the action of the Rochester convention, to bring about an adjustment, and that the committee report their findings to the Executive Council with such recommendation as they desire to submit.

Metal Trades vs. Riggers.

On the protest of the Metal Trades Department against Riggers' Protective Union, No. 1367, of Brooklyn, N. Y., for the refusal of this local to comply with the request of the department to refrain to handle non-union ice and refrigerating machines, as well as alleged infringement upon the jurisdiction of the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, it was decided that Riggers' Local No. 11561 be requested to co-operate with the Metal Trades Department, and that further the local be again communicated with in accordance with the action of the Executive Council at the January, 1913, meeting, namely, that where there is a strike among the Metal Trades for better conditions in any plant, that the other trades refuse to do the work of the men on strike.

Newsboys.

On the matter of the application of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants Union for jurisdiction over newsboys, it was decided that jurisdiction over newsboys be retained by the American Federation of Labor and that each individual application for a charter for a newsboys' union be given separate consideration, by the Executive Council.

On the matter of the protest of the International Typographical Union against the granting of charters from the A. F. of L. to newsboys either by the A. F. of L. or any affiliated organization, it was decided that upon application from newsboys unions or inquiries in regard to organizing them that each be referred to that each individual application must be acted upon by the Executive Council.

Hartford, Conn., Dual Movement.

On the request of the Hartford, Conn., Central Labor Union urging that the recommendation of the Rochester convention, namely that the Building Trades Department, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and the United Association of Plumbers, Gas and Steam Fitters unite in a conference with the Hartford to take up jointly with the building trades locals involved in the dual movement now in that city to the end that there will be but one Central Labor Union and one Building Trades Council in Hartford, Conn., and that the matter be affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, it was decided that the matter be referred to the Building Trades Department.

Flint Glass Workers vs. MacBeth-Evans Glass Company.

On the complaint of the Flint Glass Workers' Union against the MacBeth-Evans Glass Co., it was decided that resolution No. 103, of the Rochester convention, calling attention to the dispute of the Flint Glass Workers with the MacBeth-Evans Glass Company and requesting that the delegates to the convention use their best efforts to have the product of union labor substituted for the glass made by the MacBeth-Evans Glass Company, which resolution was referred to the Executive Council, be forwarded to local unions affiliated to the American Federation of Labor.

Whitehead & Hoag Company.

It was decided that Organizers Hilfers and Eichelberger be instructed to confer with the officers of the Whitehead & Hoag Co. in the employ of the Whitehead & Hoag Co. be interested in the organization of the employes of the Whitehead & Hoag Co. be requested to confer with the A. F. of L. organizers to that end.

E. C. Atkins Saw Company.

On the matter of the grievance of the International Association of Machinists with the E. C. Atkins & Manufacturing Company, of Indianapolis, Ind., it was decided that correspondence of the officers of the company be invited to bring about an adjustment, and a conference be held, if it is thought necessary, to bring about a settlement.

Charter Applications.

On the application of the Railroad Employes' Department for new charter with the following international unions and the officers to be listed thereon, it was decided that application be denied.

On the charter application of the Newsboys Protective Union of New Westminster, British Columbia, it was decided that charter be granted.

It was decided that the application of the Architectural Iron Workers' Union of Canada for charter be denied and the money accompanying same as charter fee be returned.

On the application for charter from the American Racing Cyclists Union, it was decided that the application be denied.

On the application for charter of the International Shipwrights, Joiners and Caulkers, protested by Secretary Duffy of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, it was decided that application be denied.

On the charter application of the Protective Association of Steam Shovelmen, Dredgemen and Oilers of the International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers it was decided that President Gompers be instructed to appoint a committee of three to investigate this complaint and endeavor to bring about an adjustment, and that the committee report their findings to the Executive Council with such recommendation as they desire to submit.

Asbestos Workers.

On the matter of the charges filed by John Watson, E. McElligott and W. F. Quinn against the officers of the International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers it was decided that President Gompers be instructed to appoint a committee of three to investigate this complaint and endeavor to bring about an adjustment, and that the committee report their findings to the Executive Council with such recommendation as they desire to submit.

On the matter of the Metal Trades Department against Riggers' Protective Union, No. 11367 Brooklyn, N. Y., for the refusal of this local to comply with the request of the department to refrain to handle non-union ice and refrigerating machines, as well as alleged infringement upon the jurisdiction of the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, it was decided that Riggers' Local No. 11561 be requested to co-operate with the Metal Trades Department, and that further the local be again communicated with in accordance with the action of the Executive Council at the January, 1913, meeting, namely, that where there is a strike among the Metal Trades for better conditions in any plant, that the other trades refuse to do the work of the men on strike.

Tunnel and Subway Constructors vs. Compressed Air Workers.

On the matter of the proposed amalgamation of the Tunnel and Subway Constructors' International Union and the Compressed Air and Foundation Workers' Union, it was decided that, inasmuch as the amalgamation could not be brought about, that the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. recommend to the two unions that arrangements be made for an interchange of cards.

Aeolian Workers.

On the communication from the Piano and Organ Workers' International Union, filing claim of jurisdiction over the Aeolian Workers' Union of Meriden, Conn., holding charter as a Federal Labor Union, it was decided that the application be denied.

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Metal Trades vs. Riggers.

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Wage Scales Approved.

On the matter of the new wage scale of Tin, Sheet Iron, and Granite Ware Workers' Union, No. 10942, Granite City, Illinois, it was decided that same be approved.

On the matter of the wage scale of Flume and Cereal Mill Employes' Union, No. 14039, of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, it was decided that Secretary Morrison take up correspondence with this local and assist it in regard to the scale and that the scale as then agreed upon be approved.

On the matter of the wage scale of Bowling Alley Mechanics, No. 8211, of Los Angeles, Cal., it was decided that if satisfactory information be received, that application for reinstatement of the wage scale be approved.

Seamen.

The following was adopted:

Whereas, the loss of the Titanic and the Senate investigation into the circumstances accentuated the facts then well known, that vessels are sent to sea undermanned, both as to efficiency in skill and number of men employed; and,

Whereas, the Conventions at Chicago and Baltimore have passed resolutions of inquiry in the interest of safety at sea and to improve the condition of the seamen and their home considerations, should be speedily enacted; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we earnestly request Congress to give the earliest possible consideration to this measure; and,

Resolved, That this resolution be forwarded to the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Workmen's Compensation.

The Executive Council, believing that the results of the investigation of a commission to study and report existing facts as to the workings of the workmen's compensation laws in the various states would be of benefit to the labor movement, appointed Vice President John Mitchell and Vice President James Duncan to act as a commission and to represent the American Federation of Labor and to co-operate with the representatives of the National Civic Federation who are making an investigation to secure such information as they may deem necessary for the result of investigation to the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor.

On the communication from John B. Andrews, Secretary of the American Association for Labor Legislation, requesting the indorsement of the United States Council of the A. F. of L. upon the bill providing adequate compensation for all civilian employes of the United States injured in the course of their employment, both for accidents and occupational diseases, such as lead poisoning, compressed air, illness, &c., it was decided that the bill be indorsed.

Civil Service Examinations.

On the request of the Pattern Makers' League to have the Civil Service Council make an effort to have the examination and application certificates for positions in the municipal service of the various civil service moduled, it was decided that the matter be referred to resident members of the Executive Council for such action as they can in this matter.

Amendment to Erdman Act.

On the matter of the proposed amendment to the Erdman Act to include railroad shop employes, it was decided that it be referred to the Railroad Employes' Department for recommendation as to what action the Executive Council should take.

State Uniformity of School Books.

On the matter of state uniformity of school books and the differences of opinion among teachers and educators as to the educational value of such uniformity, as developed by the investigation of the Chicago Federation of Labor, it was decided that Secretary Morrison continue inquiry into this question, and that the matter be reported again to the next convention of the A. F. of L.

Parcel Post.

It was decided that the bill providing for the extension of the parcel post service be indorsed.

International Secretariat Delegate.

It was decided that President George W. Perkins, of the Cigar Makers' International Union, be selected as delegate to represent the American Federation of Labor at the meeting of the International Secretariat at Zurich, Switzerland, September, 1913.

Secretariat Proposition Disapproved.

On the proposition of the International Secretariat to increase per capita tax on national centers to raise means to protest for an International weekly newsletter service, it was decided that the following cablegram be forwarded to Secretary Legien, of the International Secretariat:

"American centre deprecates increased financial obligation affiliation Secretariat. Considers change to weekly letter inadvisable.

Conference of Central Bodies.

It was decided that the action of the conference of the representatives of the Central Bodies of Greater New York and vicinity with Vice President Duncan, Secretary Morrison, and Organizer Hugh Frayne representing the A. F. of L. be approved and the officers of the A. F. of L. continue their efforts to organize the unorganized and for greater unity among the organized of New York City and vicinity.

Bastian Bros. Company.

On the matter of the issuance of the A. F. of L. label to the Bastian Bros. Company of Rochester, N. Y., it was decided that the label be issued providing all the employes of the company are organized.

Letter Carriers.

On the matter of having a representative of the American Federation of Labor address the convention of the National Letter Carriers' Association, which will meet August 20, 1913, it was decided that this be referred to the Executive Council.

Colored Workers.

On the request of the National League on Urban Conditions among Negroes to ascertain the attitude of the American Federation of Labor upon the question of organizing among the negro workmen, the Executive Council calls attention to the fact that many years ago the American Federation of Labor declared for the organization of the negro as a wage-earning people without regard to sex, religion, race, politics, or nationality; that many negro workmen are now in the A. F. of L. have within their membership negro workmen with all other workmen of their trade and calling in the A. F. of L. made and is making every effort within the power of the organization of these workmen. The Executive Council declares that it will gladly receive this co-operation of the National League on Urban Conditions among Negroes and of individuals for the purpose of carrying into effect the declared policy regarding all workmen in consonance with the American Federation of Labor's declared and steadfast attitude of organizing all workmen irrespective of creed, color, sex, or nationality.

Women's, Trade Union League.

On the request of the National Women's Trade Union League that the financial assistance granted to the League by the American Federation of Labor be continued, it was decided that the request be complied with, for the balance of the year 1913, and the matter will then receive further consideration.

Society for Promotion of Industrial Education.

On the invitation of the American Federation of Labor to be represented at the banquet to be given in connection with the convention of the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education, October 23, 24, and 25, to be held in Louisville, Ky., it was decided that the matter be referred to President Gompers to arrange for a representative of the Federation present.

National Conservation Congress.

On the invitation from the National Conservation Congress for the American Federation of Labor to send representatives to the 1913 National Conservation Congress it was decided that President Gompers and Secretary Morrison arrange to have a representative of the American Federation of Labor present at the Congress.

Occupational Diseases.

On the communication from the International Congress for Diseases of Occupation in regard to the exhibition being planned in connection with the Congress, it was decided that there be referred to President Gompers and that after data is secured in accordance with this resolution it be reported again to the Executive Council.

NEW SOCIAL LAWS IN EUROPE ADOPTED AND INTRODUCED IN 1912

The French Labor Office has published an interesting review of the development of the social legislation in Europe during the last year. In no less than ten countries laws relating to wages and labor generally have been drawn up, the most noteworthy of which is the minimum wage bill for miners in England, in which a minimum wage has been established. Another law provides for an embargo to be placed upon ships in case the crews have not been paid. By a new law in Greece stipulates that all wages must be paid in cash, either daily or at time periods not exceeding a month, and that amounts up to one-quarter of the wages only may be deducted in payment of debts or other purposes. Another special law provides for all disputes between worker and employer being referred to the justices of the peace. In this way rapid legal action will be assured without cost to the worker. In Austria a new law exists under which the miners are to be paid every fourteen days. Employers are forbidden to sell provisions or articles of price from their workers for tools, or pay wages in a beer house or an inn, except in the case of a further law raises the amount of wages or pension which may not be seized by the creditor. A new law has come into force in Italy making industrial instruction for children of twelve to fourteen years of age who are employed in factories compulsory. A bill for the establishing of commercial high schools has been passed by the Chamber of Deputies, concerning female and child labor, work in factories, workshops, mines, and the safety, sanitary, and other precautions for the safety and welfare of the workmen as well as the weekly day of rest, are embodied in eight different conventions. In seven other countries similar laws are at present before the legislature. Sweden has new laws on accidents and compensation, the old laws relating to the regulating of the working conditions for all industrial workers. Same prohibits the employing of children under twelve years of age in factories, and those between fourteen years of age in the mines (women and children are employed in the mines at all). Children between twelve and thirteen must not be employed more than six hours daily; those between thirteen and fourteen not longer than eight hours, and fourteen to eighteen not more than ten hours daily. Six weeks' rest is to be given in cases of confinement. A law has come into force in Greece regulating the employment of women in industrial concerns. Children under twelve years of age must not be employed in factories or work with their parents, when the minimum age is ten years. The working time of children of from twelve to fourteen years must not exceed eight hours; for those of fourteen to eighteen, ten hours daily. On the days preceding Sundays and holidays, eight hours is the maximum working time allowed. Night work after 8 p.m. an hour must be granted to children, and to juveniles and women two hours (Saturdays one hour). Night work for women and children is forbidden. The law provides for factory inspection. In accordance with the Berne Convention, a law has been introduced in Spain for abolishing night duty for females and children. A further law stipulated that females employed in business houses and offices must be given an opportunity to sit down.

A new shop law has come into force in England, which comprises all previous laws and references to shop assistants, &c. A new amendment to the Swedish law permits shops to be closed only between the hours of 6 a.m. and 9 p.m. week days. A law has been introduced in Belgium abolishing the employment of children under fourteen years of age in smelting or rolling works. The weekly working time to which these regulations apply must be restricted to sixty hours. On January 12, 1912, a law came into force in Belgium to fix a maximum day and tramway companies were compelled to submit copies of the regulations governing the working conditions of the employes of their respective systems. An Austrian law has extended the provisions for Sunday rest pauses, payment of wages, employment of children, sick and accident insurance to include all the building trades. A Danish law in reference to the baking trades prescribes a maximum working day of ten hours, and one day for juveniles under eighteen years of age, and forbids night work for boys under sixteen and girls under eighteen. It further provides a weekly rest of twenty-four hours as well as certain sanitary and hygenic measures. A law concerning the employment of children in the trade in tobacco has remark since April 15, 1912, under which the employers are pledged to register all foreign work. A law as well as remark since April 15, 1912, under which the employers are pledged to register all foreign work. A law has been passed and sixteen years for girls, to fifteen and eighteen, respectively; in towns of over 10,000 population, for boys between the ages of fifteen and seventeen to be fixed at twelve hours daily, subject to approval of the authorities. The Belgian Government submitted an amendment to the law of 1889 to the Senate, on women and child labor to the Parliament. According to the same, children may not be employed in factories before the age of fourteen, instead of twelve years, as was previously the case, and those works which do not allow children under the law are to be brought under the same. Under the Italian law the employes on the principal railway lines will be entitled to a rest of the same working time, pay, and pensions as are enjoyed by the workers employed on the railways. A bill extended the legal rights of trade unions, and legalizing the application of the funds to political purposes, was passed for the third reading in the English Parliament (April 5, 1912). It further provides that a majority is necessary for optional fund for this purpose if the majority of the members are agreeable thereto. A law concerning the Danish Parliament February 7, 1913, relating to the establishment of employment exchanges and unemployment insurance, with a central employment office. The Spanish Government drew up a bill for the establishment of Labor and Trade Courts. As regards the settlement of industrial disputes, an interesting bill was submitted to the Norwegian Parliament, strictly forbidding strikes and lockouts in cases where the Government has submitted a collective tariff agreements or the carrying out of the same is concerned. Such difficulties shall be submitted to a special court and the parties involved shall pay the costs.

Concerning Sound Insurance, the following facts have to be reported: The whole of the life insurance societies in Germany, with the private companies, were taken over by the state, the latter societies receiving no indemnity. Compulsory insurance against sickness, accidents, disablement, and old age was introduced in Roumania. A system of insurance against sickness, old age, and the increasing of the railway laws were improved. In Russia, on the 6th of July, a bill became law, introducing an obligatory sick and accident insurance for those engaged in factories, mines, on private railways, and in the inland navigation, but not those persons engaged in the so-called small industries. This law operate in European Russia and in the Caucasus. The sick benefit, the law provides, shall amount to three-fifths and the employer two-fifths, is founded on the local independent sick funds. Special provision has been made with attention for thirteen weeks and 50 to 60 per cent of their wages when they have been engaged in the so-called small industries. This law operate in European Russia and in the Caucasus. The sick benefit, the law provides, shall amount to three-fifths and the employer two-fifths, is founded on the local independent sick funds. Special provision has been made with attention for thirteen weeks and 50 to 60 per cent of their wages when they have been engaged in the so-called small industries. If the insured person has a valid has-no dependents he receives 25 to 50 per cent sick pay. For the first pay will be paid for six weeks, and, in case of death, an allowance of 15 times the daily wage. A pay will be paid. The accident insurance has the same conditions. The old-age insurance for miners, miners were altered an that 2½ per cent has to be deducted from the weekly wage of these workers for four weeks.

The Swiss proposed the establishing of a workmen's insurance against accidents in a bill dated October 28, 1912. The Italian government laid a bill before the Parliament on May 7, 1913, for the purpose reciprocal agreements with other countries in respect to a foreigner participating in the benefits provided in the insurance laws of the country in which he finds himself. A state insurance for old age, sickness, and disablement, after the English pattern, has been before the Belgium Parliament since November 11, 1912. The Dutch Parliament dealt with the draft of a bill concerning insurance against sickness, disablement, and old age, and the increasing of the railway's minimum pension. This pension shall be two-thirds of the average salary for the last five years. Contributions are a contribution of 4 per cent of the wages be paid into the fund. The Minister of the Interior and Justice in the Netherlands has proposition, according to which a pension scheme for state workers, their widows and orphans should be drawn up. The Luxembourg Parliament established a benefit society for the employes in public service on July 31, 1912. The Belgium government submitted a bill to the Parliament November 14, 1912, for the establishing of a Belgian laws of December 28, 1911, dealt with the erection of cheap residences, to be completed by the end of 1913. A bill for the establishing of a national caster for the erection of cheap houses was submitted to the Belgium Parliament by the government November 12, 1912. The Belgium government in order that the above purpose will be hastened by the granting of government loans in proportion to the means raised for the work by local organizations. A bureau for the furtherance of labor and social development has been founded in Greece. A bill of which there is a proposal by the Swedish government providing for the establishing of a social department with five subdepartments for collective agreements, courts of arbitration, protective measures for the workers, sick funds, and statistics.

From this brief review it can unfortunately be seen that social legislation is proceeding but very slowly in all countries, as in some countries it is still in the most elementary stages. The modern progressive movement must, and will, be responsible for bringing about further strides forward in this direction.